



Mobile Data Computer Project

The Belmont Police Department began researching the placement of mobile data computers (MDC) in police cars in 1995. MDC's have been in use in some metropolitan areas for a number of years but were limited in capability and cost prohibitive for small agencies. New technology has greatly improved the capabilities of MDC systems.

The Belmont Police Department submitted a **\$2,800,000 federal COPS MORE grant** application in 1995 proposing to fund a five city (Belmont, San Carlos, Hillsborough, Foster City and Foster City) MDC System. Funding was secured to connect the computers and modems in each police vehicle with new central computer equipment in the police station to permit complete and secure transmitting and receiving of data. We are proud to announce that this system is now in operation and is truly "state of the art". It permits communication by computer with officers working in the field:

- The Police Dispatch Center,
- Police Department Records Management System (RMS),
- Department of Justice database,
- National Crime Information Center (NCIC) database,
- DMV database, and
- Other similarly equipped police vehicles.

By dramatically increasing the information available to Police Officers, over existing MDC systems, Belmont Police Department Mobile Data Computer's will permit:

- Greatly enhanced productivity by permitting officers to write and transmit reports while remaining in the field,
- Increased safety of Police Officers by permitting greater access to computer information on events and persons previously unavailable,
- Provide a means to communicate and access data confidentially, and,
- Improve the quality of investigations.

There are currently no other police agencies in San Mateo County that has MDC systems with these capabilities in use. The Belmont Police Department MDC system is the first operational in San Mateo County (and one of few cities in California) to go online with seamless, integrated MDC system.